

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08495 261721Z

43/51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FBO-02 SCS-03 SCCT-01 AID-05

CCO-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-05

OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15

SY-05 PC-01 EB-07 /084 W
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O 261931Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9487

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8495

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 1.)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, IN

SUBJ: INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

REF: NEW DELHI 8440

1. WITH THE WIRE SERVICES, RADIO, AND PRESS UNDER TIGHT CENSORSHIP, WE ARE THROWN BACK ON RUMORS WHICH TAKE SOME TIME TO SORT OUT, IF THEY CAN BE SORTED AT ALL. FACTUALLY, WE CAN REPORT THAT DELHI HAS BEEN NORMAL ALL DAY WITH BUSINESS-AS-USUAL AROUND THE
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 08495 261721Z

CITY. THE BSF TROOPS WE DESCRIBED REFTEL HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN

DEPLOYED DISCREETLY IN COMPANY-SIZE UNITS IN KEY CITY AREAS, SUCH AS THE VICINITY OF THE PARLIAMENT AND ADJACENT TO THE DEFENSE MINISTRY TUCKED AWAY IN BACKYARDS OR ON SIDE-STREETS. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION ARE OPERATING NORMALLY EXCEPT FOR INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE CIRCUITS WHICH HAVE BEEN REPORTED DOWN MOST OF THE DAY.

2. LESS RELIABLY, WE HAVE HEARD RUMORS THAT SEVERAL NEQRPAPER EDITORS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED (IN ADDITION TO MALKANI OF "MOTHERLAND"). CONGEN BOMBAY SAYS THERE ARE REPORTS/RUMORS OF VARYING RELIABILITY THAT THERE HAS BEEN RIOTING IN AHMEDABAD AND BARODA AND THAT GUJARAT CHIEF MINISTER PATEL HAS BEEN ARRESTED. THESE WE REITERATE ARE UNCONFIRMED. THINGS ARE REPORTED NORMAL IN MADRAS AND CALCUTTA ALTHOUGH SURPRISE AND SHOCK ARE NOTED IN BOTH THESE CITIES OVER THE PM'S ACTIONS. CONGENS CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY REPORT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO ARRESTS THUS FAR IN EITHER CITY. ARRESTS ARE, HOWEVER, EXPECTED IN BIHAR.

3. A "EXTRA" EDITION OF THE HINDUSTAN TIMES PUBLISHED JUST BEFORE CENSORSHIP WAS IMPOSED REPORTS THAT THE POLICE RAIDED ALL 11 NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED IN JULLUNDAR (PUNJAB) EARLY THIS MORNING AND SEIZED THE COPIES. THEY WERE LOOKING OFOR A NEWS STORY THAT THE PAPERS WERE CARRYING AN APPEAL FROM J.P. NARAYAN TO THE ARMED FORCES NOT TO OBEY GOVERNMENT ORDERS. WE LEARN FROM ANOTHER SOURCE THAT THE POLICE VACATED THE NEWSPAPER OFFICES BUT EXACTED AN ASSURANCE THAT NEWS ABOUT THEIR RAID WOULD NOT BE PUBLISHED. COMMENT: NARAYAN DID IN FACT CALL ON THE ARMY AND POLICE NOT TO OBEY ORDERS IN A JUNE 25 DELHI SPEECH REPORTED IN THOSE NEWS-PAPERS WHICH DID PUBLISH HERE TODAY.
SCHNEIDER

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